

Review Group Membership

MaHTAS Reviewer:

Dr. Noor Aishah Yussof
Datin Dr. Rugayah Bakri

Disclaimer:

Technology review is a brief report, prepared on an urgent basis, which draws on restricted reviews from analysis of pertinent literature, on expert opinion and / or regulatory status where appropriate. It is not subjected to an external review process. While effort has been made to do so, this document may not fully reflect all scientific research available. Additionally, other relevant scientific findings may have been reported since completion of this review.

For further information please contact:

Health Technology Assessment
Section (MaHTAS)
Medical Development Division
Ministry of Health Malaysia
Level 4, Block E1, Precinct 1
Government Office Complex
62590 Putrajaya.

Tel: 603 8883 1246

Fax: 603 8883 1230

Available at the following website:
<http://www.moh.gov.my>

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Introduction

Bovine colostrum (BC) is the milk secreted by cows during the first few days after parturition. It contains many essential nutrients and bioactive components, including growth factors, immunoglobulins (Igs), lactoperoxidase (Lp), lysozyme (Lys), lactoferrin (Lf), cytokines, nucleosides, vitamins, peptides and oligosaccharides, which are of increasing relevance to human health. Human colostrum typically contains 2% IgG content, while bovine colostrum can have from 8% to above 25% IgG.

It is commercially regarded as a nutraceutical product and its claim to have numerous health benefits such as for treating viral and bacterial infections, gastrointestinal disorders, respiratory tract disorders and enhancing exercise performance in athlete.

This technology review was conducted following a request from National Pharmaceutical Control Bureau, Ministry of Health (MOH) Malaysia who received a proposal from a company to promote for licensing to market the product in cosmetic.

Objective/Aim

To assess the safety, efficacy/effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of colostrum for cosmetic purpose and cell regeneration.

Results and Conclusions

There was no retrievable scientific evidence on the safety, efficacy/effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of colostrum for cosmetic purpose and cell regeneration. Based on the review, colostrum is not recommended for cosmetic purpose and cell regeneration until clinical evidence is available.

Methods

Electronic databases were searched through the MEDLINE(R) In-process and other Non-Indexed Citations and Ovid MEDLINE(R) 1948 to present, EBM Reviews - Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials -July 2013 and EBM Reviews - Health Technology Assessment - 3rd Quarter 2013, EBM Reviews-Database of Abstracts of Review of Effects-3rd Quarter 2013, EBM Reviews-Cochrane database of Systematic Reviews – 2005 until July 2013. Other database was PubMed, National Horizon Scanning and FDA website.

